



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES



DIVISION FOR THE AGING

James A. Rothrock, Commissioner

VDA WEEKLY E-MAILING

October 14, 2015

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ACL News & Information

Here is a link to news & information from the Administration for Community Living (ACL):

<http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/Index.aspx>

NASUAD Weekly Update

Here is a link to the weekly update from NASUAD:

<http://www.nasud.org/newsroom/friday-update>

Note: The web links in this document may change over time. DARS-VDA does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

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October 8, 2015

[“Leave No One Behind”: Reflections from the 70th United Nations General Assembly & Sustainable Development Summit](#)



By Kathy Greenlee, Assistant Secretary of Aging and Administrator, ACL

Last week, I joined colleagues from the Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development as part of the U.S. Delegation to the 70th United Nations General Assembly.

While it is clear that we still have a great deal of work to do, the world is finally starting to take note of the contributions and concerns of older adults and people with disabilities. Advocates for these under-represented groups played an important role throughout the Sustainable Development Summit. I am proud to have been among them, and I am looking forward to continuing our work to ensure the human rights many of us take for granted extend to all people, throughout the lifespan,



regardless of age or ability.

[Read Administrator Greenlee's full post.](#)



October 8, 2015

ACL announces new federal grants to bolster state Adult Protective Services systems

In 2011, a beloved actor who spent 80 years telling others' stories shared a heartbreaking tale from his own life.

"I felt trapped, scared, used and frustrated," Mickey Rooney told a hearing room full of members of Congress, with cameras rolling. He described abuse and financial exploitation committed by his own family members and had a powerful message for other older adults experiencing abuse: "You're not alone ... and you have nothing – nothing, ladies and gentlemen – to be ashamed of."

Rooney's courageous testimony and a GAO report released hours earlier brought national attention to the fight against elder abuse.

ACL now marks a milestone in the fight against abuse of older adults and people with disabilities as it awards the first-ever federal grants specifically designated to improve states' Adult Protective Services (APS) systems.

These grants, which total up to \$2.8 million for up to two years, are being awarded to Alabama, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Washington.

ACL also is awarding a contract of up to nearly \$850,000 to Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc. to provide support to grant recipients and to manage ACL's National Adult Protective Services Resource Center. Formed in 2011, the resource center compiles and disseminates best practices and



provides targeted technical assistance to APS programs across the country.

[Read the news release](#) and [find out how each state will be using their grant.](#)



UPDATES

October 9, 2015

ACL “No Wrong Door” System Grants Help Streamline Access to Services and Supports

For many older adults and people with disabilities, the key to remaining independent can be something as simple as a home-delivered meal, a ramp for their homes, or a few hours of respite for a family caregiver. Unfortunately, an often disjointed maze of eligibility criteria, forms, programs, and agencies can prevent even the most determined individuals from obtaining these critical supports.

ACL has been helping states streamline their processes and implement systems that make it easier for people to learn about -- and access -- the services they need. Last week, ACL [awarded nearly \\$5 million in grants to 13 states](#) to further develop “No Wrong Door” Systems.

In these No Wrong Door Systems, multiple state and community agencies coordinate to ensure that regardless of which agency people contact for help, they can access information and one-on-one counseling about the options available across all the agencies and in their communities. The goal is to enable people to make informed decisions based on the full range of available services. The No Wrong Door systems also provide assistance in accessing services, including help in completing applications for various public and private programs.

These grants are part of an ongoing partnership with the



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to support state efforts to advance system-wide changes that make it easier for people to remain living in their own homes and communities. Of the 13 states that received current funding, eight (Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin) will [continue work begun and funded by ACL in prior years](#) to transform their access systems. The remaining five states (Alabama, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Virginia) [are launching new initiatives](#).

[Read the news release to learn more.](#)



UPDATES

October 13, 2015

A Collaborative Conversation with the Independent Living and Developmental Disability Networks of Tennessee

By Wanda Willis, Executive Director, Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities and Ann Eubank, Executive Director, Tennessee Statewide Independent Living Council

We asked the Council on Developmental Disabilities Executive Director Wanda Willis and Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Executive Director Ann Eubank about the workshop and the potential impact of the collaboration of the two networks.

Why did you decide to convene this group?

Wanda Willis: With the recent move of Independent Living programs to ACL following the reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, this meeting provided an opportunity for the two networks, the



Developmental Disabilities (DD) Network and the Independent Living (IL) Network, to explore ways to work together to increase our impact in Tennessee. We are fortunate to have an amazing network of Independent Living Centers and a new SILC Executive Director who brings a stellar reputation for collaboration and a creative work ethic.

The meeting seemed transformational. Talk about that.

Wanda Willis: The day itself was transformational. You know, over the years the Council has worked with each organization in the room on one initiative or another. Tennessee's IL Network is a group that I personally admire – many individuals in that network have been mentors to me, shaping my vision and views that I draw on every day in my work. To see a group of organizations and individuals that I admire so greatly come together with a singular focus, mutual respect and a shared vision was truly a monumental day for me.

Ann Eubank: Another observation - it was extraordinary to see federal decision-makers, in that very same room, also be courageous. They were fully engaged and offered insight into processes at the federal level. Instead of possibly feeling overwhelmed with the recent changes at the Administration for Community Living, I was impressed by the work Commissioner Bishop and his staff have accomplished and empowered by their willingness to listen to our ideas and our challenges – to collaborate with us.

Where do you hope to go from here?

Wanda Willis: It was clear at the end of the day that everyone was committed to continuing the conversation. The Council will be sending out a survey to get additional feedback on suggested joint projects. We will be meeting again in January to plan the next steps.

Ann Eubank: With the shared priority of transition of youth from school to work we agreed that by combining IL and DD resources and efforts in a strategic way we will significantly increase our impact on employment. We will begin work on specific activities toward this goal in our January meeting. Also, with the SILC recently becoming a member of the Tennessee Disability Policy Alliance, we join the Council and the P&A in promoting better public policy for Tennesseans with



disabilities.

[Click here to read more of the conversation.](#)



Representing Clients in Guardianship Actions: Winning the Case for Supported Decision Making

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 - 2:00 PM ET

Join ACL's National Legal Resource Center for the latest in a webinar series on supported decision making. Webinar participants will learn how to "win the case" for supported decision-making at three critical stages:

1. When helping the people you work with access supports and services to live independently;
2. When a petition for guardianship has been filed; and
3. When you are working with a person under a guardianship.

Speakers include Jonathan Martinis of the National Resource Center for Supported Decision Making at the Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities and Dr. C. Rick Ellis, a clinical and forensic psychologist.

Supported decision-making is an alternative to guardianship that allows older adults and people with disabilities to work with trusted friends, family members, and professionals to help them understand the situations they face and the options that are available to older adults and people with disabilities.

The webinar series began in September with a webinar on [the fine art of balancing protection with self determination](#).

[Learn more and register for the webinar.](#) If you have additional questions e-mail trainings@nclc.org.



New Funding Opportunity from the National Institutes of Health

Tim Catherman, Director Aging Operations

Dear ADSSP and ADI-SSS Grantees and Collaborative Partners,

We'd like to make you aware of new funding opportunities from the National Institutes of Health related to Alzheimer's disease and health disparities. You can find information on these opportunities using the links below.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-350.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-349.html>

Thank you,

National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center

Webinars: Geriatric Competent Care - Caring for Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias

Kathy B. Miller, Director of Programs, Division for the Aging



Dear Colleague,

The American Geriatrics Society, in collaboration with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), The Lewin Group, and Community Catalyst, invite you to the continuation of our webinar series:

Geriatric-Competent Care -

Caring for Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

The third webinar, "Care Transitions to and from the Hospital for Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias," will take place on October 29th from 12:00 to 1:30pm ET. The fourth webinar, "Understanding and Responding to Behavioral Symptoms among Individuals



with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias," will take place on November 3rd from 12:00 to 1:30pm ET. **Interested participants are encouraged to [Register Click Here!](#)** or go to <http://event.on24.com/r.htm?e=1038358&s=1&k=D3CD8B11F19F4C059ECC9B1469E91D11>.

These webinars are designed to help health professionals in all settings and disciplines expand their knowledge and skills in the unique aspects of caring for older adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and in working with their caregivers. Registration will be limited. Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Education credit is available for these webinars at no cost to the participants (see details at the bottom of this email). The first two webinars in the series, "Presentation and Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease" and "After the Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease: Preparing the Patient and Caregiver," are available for viewing here: https://www.resourcesforintegratedcare.com/webinar-series/GCC_Caring_for_Individuals_with_Alzheimers.

Webinar 3: Care Transitions to and from the Hospital for Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2015

Time: 12:00pm to 1:30pm ET

Call: (800) 260-0712 **Participant Access Code:** 370442

[To Register Click Here!](#)

This webinar presents some of the core competencies on how to best prepare and ease the difficulties surrounding care transitions, particularly to and from a hospital environment for adults with dementia. A transition of care is defined as moving from one practitioner or setting to another as condition and care needs change (Coleman and Boulton, 2003). It is usually accompanied by a change in care plan. This transition can take place within settings (e.g. within the home care team), between settings (e.g. between a hospital and home) and across health states (e.g. curative and palliative care).

During transitions of care, communication – between the individual with dementia and his or her family, within the home care team, and among all providers involved in caring for the person – is especially important to ensure medication safety, understanding of the care plan, clarity of roles and responsibilities, and care coordination.

Featured Speakers:

- Kathryn Agarwal, MD, Section of Geriatrics, Baylor College of Medicine



- Karen Rose, PhD, RN, FAAN, School of Nursing, University of Virginia
- Alan Stevens, PhD, Center for Applied Health Research, Baylor Scott & White

Learning Objectives:

At the completion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe some of the common care transitions experienced by persons with dementia and the associated risks for this population
- Identify important strategies to prevent adverse outcomes due to poor transition planning or execution
- Name key features of several current evidence-based models for care transitions

**Webinar 4: Understanding and Responding to Behavioral Symptoms
Among Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias**

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Time: 12:00pm to 1:30pm ET

Call: (800) 260-0702 **Participant Access Code:** 370443

[To Register Click Here!](#)

This webinar presents some of the core competencies most fundamental to understanding and managing behavioral symptoms associated with the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Practical non-pharmacologic interventions for specific behavioral symptoms will be described and the evidence for the risks and benefits of pharmacological interventions will also be reviewed. Most dementias are associated with a range of neuropsychiatric and behavioral disturbances, with as many as 80% to 90% of older adults developing at least one distressing symptom over the course of their illness. The behavioral disturbances in dementia require evaluation of the specific symptoms, including the person's comfort, the care environment, the caregiver's needs, and the degree of distress of all those involved in the life of the adult with dementia.

Non-pharmacologic interventions must be considered the first-line choice of treatment for all behavioral disturbances in dementia. These include caregiver education and support; person-centered use of music, physical activity, support for activities of daily living; and cognitive stimulation programs. Medication effects on behavioral disturbances in dementia tend to be



modest and should be implemented only after environmental and non-pharmacologic techniques have been employed.

Featured Speakers:

- **Geri Hall, PhD, ARNP, Clinical Nurse Specialist**, Banner Alzheimer's Institute
- Beth Spencer, MA, LMSW, University of Michigan School of Social Work
- Gregg Warshaw, MD, Professor Emeritus of Geriatric Medicine, University of Cincinnati

Learning Objectives:

At the completion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Define common behavioral changes in progressive dementias and identify characteristics of the person, environmental and other triggers for those behaviors
- Identify some key issues in effective assessment of behavioral challenges
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of some evidence-based non-pharmacological strategies for preventing or reducing difficult behaviors

After each presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

This series is developed by the American Geriatrics Society in collaboration with Community Catalyst and The Lewin Group, and is hosted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office Integrated Care Resource Center.

Please contact RIC@lewin.com with any questions.

Please be sure to [Register Here!](#)

Sincerely,

The Resources for Integrated Care Lewin team

CME/CE credit information:

Accreditation - The American Geriatrics Society is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.



Continuing Medical Education - The American Geriatrics Society designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 1 hour of AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

National Association of Social Workers - This activity is pending approval from the National Association of Social Workers for a maximum of 1 hour of Continuing Education (CE) credit.

The following states do not accept National CE Approval Programs for Social Work: New York, Michigan, West Virginia.

The following states currently do not recognize NASW National Approval: New Jersey, Idaho, Oregon.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Webinar participants seeking CME/CE credit should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
- A score of at least 80% on the post-test must be achieved in order to obtain CME/CE credit.
- CME/CE certificates will be emailed approximately 4 to 8 weeks after the post-test is completed.
- Estimated Time to participate in the Webinar: 1.5 hours including introductory information and interactive Q&A.
- The participant should, in order:
 - Read the learning objectives and faculty disclosures
 - Complete the pre-test
 - Participate in the webinar
 - Complete the post-test and program evaluation form

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NASUAD Friday Update Archive and Subscription

Cecily Slasor, Administrative Assistant

Friday Update Archive

Did you miss a previous issue?
Check out [past Friday Updates](#).

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[Click here](#) to subscribe to Friday Update or other NASUAD news updates.

VA Department of Emergency Management Listening Sessions (attachment)

Kathy B. Miller, Director of Programs, Division for the Aging

Dear Colleagues,

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is seeking your ideas for development of an integrated, statewide sheltering strategy. Our goal is to develop a statewide sheltering strategy that enhances and augments local and regional sheltering, using state resources in the most effective and efficient way possible. With your input, we can identify the best way to support sheltering at the local and regional levels. We can also develop the most effective way to use state resources to keep people as close to home as possible during sheltering. Finally, we want to develop a strategy that is adaptable and can flex between regions as needed.

We have reviewed and aggregated the feedback and concerns you all have provided over the past few years at various meetings across the state. We would like to take the next step and provide an opportunity for local emergency managers and emergency management stakeholders in sheltering to help craft this new strategy. Through a series of regional listening sessions that will be carried out across the Commonwealth, you can provide your input on new and evolving issues with sheltering, potential solutions, major concerns, what has been tried in the past and what worked and didn't work.

Part of the approach for these listening sessions is to have a well-balanced cross-section of representation from the whole community. That's why we are inviting local and regional emergency managers and planners, non-profits that have a role in sheltering, and other



emergency management stakeholders from the community. These include disability advocates, military, healthcare, higher education, animal control and voluntary agencies.

I am working with VDEM'S regional staff to schedule the sessions in each region. Most of the meetings will be during the day and so far, the following dates and times have been scheduled:

- Nov. 4: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Farmville;
- Nov. 5: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Charlottesville;
- Nov. 9: 1 to 4 p.m. in Richmond;
- Nov. 12: 1 to 4 p.m. in Blackstone;
- Nov. 23 in Winchester;
- Dec. 8 in the far Southwest; and
- Dec. 9 in the far Southwest.

All dates, times and locations are listed on the Eventbrite registration page which will be updated as additional sessions are scheduled. We will also send notification to those regions as new sessions are finalized. If you are unable to attend a meeting in your region, please feel free to attend one in another region. Registration is required at www.regionallisteningssessions2015.eventbrite.com

If there is an agency, organization or individual you feel should be included in the sessions, please email that information to me. If you are unable to attend any of the meetings, please feel free to email your ideas and concerns to me at: dawn.brantley@vdem.virginia.gov.

Respectfully,

Dawn Brantley, ADAC

Sheltering Coordinator

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

(C) 804-332-3432

Linked In: linkedin.com/in/dawnbrantley



The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is developing a statewide sheltering strategy that will support and enhance local & regional sheltering.

We're looking for a few good ideas from experts like you.



For information contact:
Dawn Brantley
804-332-3432
dawn.brantley@vdem.virginia.gov

We've heard you

We've heard your concerns & needs; now it's time to take the next step and listen to your input on:

- VDEM's goals for sheltering
- How VDEM can best support local government
- Potential solutions
- ADA compliance
- Pet sheltering

Who should attend?

If you have a role in sheltering, we encourage you to attend. We are striving to include the whole community in these discussions including disability advocates, military, healthcare, animal control, voluntary agencies and higher ed.



****Registration is required****
regionallisteningssessions2015.eventbrite.com
Event dates, times and locations provided & updated on Eventbrite registration page.

